(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Committee of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi has critically analysed the status of implementation of the project by Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), technically evaluated the outputs on offer as also the software development process, identified the causes of the problems and deficiencies in the software which is under trial at present, commented upon various technical and managerial aspects of the software and its development process, and made certain short-term and long-term recommendations so that a workable and useful system becomes available. The report is under consideration and necessary decisions would be taken shortly.

Change in Crop Pattern

*151. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the crop pattern in 54 lakh hectares of cultivable land producing food grains have been changed into pisciculture, horticulture and floriculture during the last five years in the country; and

(b) if so, whether there is any apprehension of shortage of foodgrains in the internal market of the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No, Sir. Only about 16 lakh hectares of additional area has been brought under pisciculture, horticulture and floriculture during the last five years.

(b) There is no apprehension of shortage of foodgrains in the country as rate of growth of production of foodgrains has been rising on account of increase in productivity levels, which has more than offset the adverse impact of reduction in area.

Incentives to Farmers

*152. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are introducing a new agriculture policy for providing more incentives to farmers to increase production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) The draft Agriculture Policy Resolution which was discussed in Rajya Sabha on August 1-3, 1995 and in Lok Sabha on August 7-9-1995 aims at accelerating allround development and economic viability of agriculture with a view to increasing agricultural production by ensuring a favourable economic environment for farmers through a favourable investment, price and trade regime. The Agriculture Policy is under finalization keeping in view the suggestions made by the Members of Parliament and the concerned Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India.

Widening of Ahmedabad-Delhi Railway Line

*153. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) since when the work of conversion of Ahmedabad-Delhi via Jaipur meter gauge Railway line into broad gauge is going on;

(b) what was the schedule of completion of the work fixed up originally and what are the reasons for delay in the execution of the work; and

(c) by when Government propose to complete the work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Since 1.4.92.

(b) The target date of completion was December '95. The work had to be delayed at the request of the Petroleum Ministry, due to delay in completion of the oil pipe line, since blockage of the line for conversion would have affected the supply of diesel and petrol to Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.

(c) Within the current Financial year i.e., by March '97.

Ad-hoc recognition to KVS Employees Associations

*154. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:
SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ad-hoc recognition was accorded to some employees' associations of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in April-May '95, following adoption of C.C.S. (Recognition of Service Association) Rules, 1995, by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) whether these associations have since fulfilled the conditions subject to which the said recognition was accorded; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons for the continuation of the said recognition?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) to (c) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (Recognition of Service Association) Regulations 1995, provide continuation of recognition of existing associations for a period of one year with effect from April 20, 1995. The period has since been extended by six months to complete the process of verification of membership strength of associations which have applied for recognition as per guidelines of Department of Personnel & Training.

News-item regarding bungling in Railway Ministry

*155. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rs. 121 Cr. bungling in Railway Ministry" as reported in the 'Pioneer' of the 3rd June, 1996;

(b) if so, whether a panel of experts have urged Government to immediately scuttle a freight computerisation project;

(c) if so, whether Government have ordered probe into the scandal; and

(d) if so, by when the persons involved would be booked?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Committee of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) has, after undertaking a study of the software of the Freight Operations Information System (FOIS) under trial in Delhi Area, submitted its report identifying the causes of the problems and deficiencies in the software and has made certain short-term and long-term recommendations so that a workable and useful system becomes available. The Committee has not suggested or implied any 'scuttling' or abandonment of the project nor has it imputed any motives to the officials concerned, which may call for a probe, as has been reported in the news items. The report is under consideration and necessary decisions would be taken shortly.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Externally Aided Projects

*156. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the externally aided projects being presently implemented;

(b) the districts in which the aforesaid programmes are being implemented;

(c) the guidelines norms for the selection of such districts;

(d) whether any committee has been formed for evaluation of the result of these projects; and

(e) what are the details of the report, if any?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) The following major externally aided projects are presently being implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development:

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Funding agency
1.	District Primary Education Programme (DPEP)	World Bank and European Commission
2.	Bihar Education Project	UNICEF
3.	UP Basic Education Project	World Bank
4.	Shiksha Karmi Project	Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)
5.	Lok Jumbish, Rajasthan	SIDA
6.	Mahila Samakhya	Govt. of Netherlands
7.	Technician Education Project	World Bank
8.	Regional Engineering Colleges	Overseas Development Agency, U.K.